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Agenda item 12

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Walid A. **Al-Hadid** (Jordan)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 32nd, 37th, 41st and 44th meetings, on 12 and 18 November and on 9 and 11 December 2002. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/57/SR.32, 37, 41 and 44). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 8th meetings, from 30 September to 3 October (see A/C.2/57/SR.2-8).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council for 2002;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/57/262-E/2002/82);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award (A/57/354);

(d) Note by the Secretariat on the draft ministerial declaration of the 2002 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on the contribution of

[1] See A/57/3 (Parts I and II); for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/57/3/Rev.1).

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human resources development, including the areas of health and education, to the process of development (A/C.2/57/5);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on strengthening further the Economic and Social Council, building on its recent achievements, to help it fulfil the role ascribed to it in the Charter of the United Nations as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/C.2/57/6).

4. At the 32nd meeting, on 12 November, the Director of the Division for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination and the Director of the Division for Public Economics and Public Administration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made introductory statements (see A/C.2/57/SR.32).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.39

5. At its 37th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/57/L.39) entitled "Public administration and development", which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 50/225 of 9 April 1996 and 53/201 of 15 December 1998 and 56/213 of 21 December 2001, on public administration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/45 of 20 December 2001,

"*Stressing* the need for capacity-building initiatives aimed at institution-building, human resources development, strengthening financial management and in harnessing the power of information and technology,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

"2. *Reiterates* that efficient, effective and transparent public administration, at both the national and international levels, has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and, in that context, stresses the need to strengthen national public sector administrative and managerial capacity-building, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

"3. *Decides* that 23 June be designated United Nations Public Service Day, and encourages Member States to organize on that day special events to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process;

"4. *Expresses its deep appreciation* for the generous offer of the Kingdom of Morocco to host the forthcoming Global Forum, to be held at Marrakesh in December 2002;

"5. *Welcomes* the substantive support that the United Nations Secretariat is providing to the forthcoming Global Forum and requests that

such support be extended to the future forums according to General Assembly resolution 56/213;

"6. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the role that the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance performs in promoting information sharing and exchange of experience, and in building the capacities of developing countries to utilize information communication technologies for this purpose, and that particular emphasis be devoted to the exchange of experience related to the role of public administration in the implementation of the internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in the manner he deems appropriate, on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 41st meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Public administration and development" (A/C.2/57/L.58), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.39.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.58 (see para. 12).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.58, draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.39 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Documents relating to the report of the Economic and Social Council

9. At its 44th meeting, on 11 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the documents before it under the item (see para. 13, draft decision I).

C. Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee

10. At the 44th meeting, on 11 December, the Chief of the Documentation Programming and Monitoring Unit of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management introduced and orally revised the draft biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 2002-2003 (see A/C.2/57/L.55).

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 2003-2004, as orally revised (see para. 13, draft decision II).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

12. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/225 of 19 April 1996, 53/201 of 15 December 1998 and 56/213 of 21 December 2001 on public administration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/45 of 20 December 2001,

Stressing the need for capacity-building initiatives aimed at institution-building, human resources development, strengthening financial management and harnessing the power of information and technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[2]

2. *Reiterates* that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration, at both the national and international levels, has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] and in that context stresses the need to strengthen national public sector administrative and managerial capacity-building, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Decides* that 23 June will be designated United Nations Public Service Day, and encourages Member States to organize special events on that day to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process;

4. *Expresses its deep appreciation* for the generous offer of the Kingdom of Morocco to host the fourth Global Forum, at Marrakesh, in December 2002;

5. *Welcomes* the substantive support that the Secretariat is providing to the forthcoming Global Forum, and invites it to extend such support to any future forums of a similar kind that may take place;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the role that the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance performs in promoting information sharing and exchange of experience and in building the capacities of developing countries to utilize information communication technologies for this purpose, and reiterates that particular emphasis should be given to the exchange of experience related to the role of public administration in the implementation of internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in the manner he deems appropriate, on the implementation of the present resolution.

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13. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

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[2] A/57/262-E/2002/82.

[3] Resolution 55/2.

Draft decision I
Documents relating to the report of the Economic and Social Council

The General Assembly takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council;[4]

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award.[5]

[4] A/57/3 (Parts I and II); for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No 3* (A/57/3/Rev.1).

[5] A/57/354.

Draft decision II
Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 2003-2004

The General Assembly, in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 39/217 of 18 December 1984, approves the biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 2003-2004, as contained in the annex to the present decision.

Annex

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 2003-2004[a]

2003

Agenda item	*Documentation*
1. Report of the Economic and Social Council[b]	Report of the Economic and Social Council
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the results achieved in realizing the aims and objectives of the International Year of Ecotourism and recommendations for further advancing the promotion of ecotourism within the framework of sustainable development (Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/40)
	Report of the Secretary-General on public administration and development (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.58, para. 7)
2. Macroeconomic policy questions	
(a) International trade and development	Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))

[a] In accordance with established practice and in pursuance of General Assembly decision 38/429, the Committee will hold a general debate each year at the beginning of its work.

[b] The list of questions and documentation under this item corresponds to requests for reports from the General Assembly; the list will be finalized after the Council completes its work in 2003.

Agenda item	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (General Assembly resolution 56/179, para. 4)
	Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development and on developments in the multilateral trading system (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.76)
(b) Science and technology for development	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its sixth session (General Assembly resolution 55/185)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the impact of new biotechnologies (General Assembly resolution 56/182, para. 10)
	Report by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (General Assembly resolution 56/183 and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.42, para. 11)[c]
(c) Specific actions relating to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developed countries	Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their developing neighbours (General Assembly resolutions 55/181, para. 6, and 56/180, para. 23)
(d) International financial system and development	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.72, para. 17)
(e) External debt crisis and development	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.77, para. 14)
(f) Preparations for the International Ministerial Conference on Transit Transport Cooperation	Report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the Conference (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.32, para. 13)

[c] Report submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

Agenda item	*Documentation*
(g) Commodities	Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73, para. 11)
3. Sectoral policy questions: preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin*	Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.46, para. 7)
4. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation	
(a) Women in development	Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 42/178 and 56/188, para. 27)
(b) Human resources development	Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 54/211 and 56/189, paras. 17 and 18)
(c) International migration and development, including the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues	Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 54/212 and 56/203, para. 11)
(d) Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (General Assembly resolution 56/206, sect. I.A, para. 7)[c]
(e) Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade	Report of the Secretary-General: overview of the challenges and constraints to, as well as the progress made towards, achieving the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the past decade (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.68, para. 3)

* The sub-item was also considered by the Third Committee under item 100, "Crime prevention and criminal justice" (see A/57/158 and Add.1 and 2).

Agenda item	Documentation
(f) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership	
5. Environment and sustainable development	Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (General Assembly resolution 39/229)[c]
	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII))[c]
	Report of the Secretary-General on the issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, including its legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.92, para. 4)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.40, para. 7)
(a) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005	Report of the Secretary-General on concrete action being taken for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the effective implementation and mobilization of resources for the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 (General Assembly resolution 56/200, paras. 13 and 14)
(b) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.89, para. 18)

Agenda item		*Documentation*
	(c) Convention on Biological Diversity	Report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the ongoing work regarding the Convention (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.67, para. 14)
	(d) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.64, para. 18)
	(e) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	Report of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.69, para. 5), including a section by the Secretary-General on the Strategy and on natural disasters and vulnerability (draft resolutions A/C.2/57/L.69, para. 8 and A/C.2/57/L.75)
	(f) Protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind	Report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.90, para. 5)
	(g) Sustainable mountain development	Report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the International Year of Mountains, 2002 (General Assembly resolution 55/189 and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.65, para. 11)
6.	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)
		Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals on the modalities of the future work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, taking into account the decisions contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.83, paras. 6 and 8)
		Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its third session (Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35)

Agenda item	*Documentation*
7. United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development	No advance documentation has been requested (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.71, para. 4)
8. Operational activities for development	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the *Human Development Report* (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.85, para. 6)[c]
Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries	Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 33/134)[c]
	Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (General Assembly resolutions 50/119, 52/205, 54/226 and 56/202, para. 13, and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.53, para. 6)
9. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.87, para. 24)
	Report of the Secretary-General on a draft programme of action for the effective observance of the International Year of Microcredit, 2005 (General Assembly resolution 53/197, para. 5)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of the World Solidarity Fund (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.52, para. 6)
10. Training and research	Report of the Secretary-General on the work, activities and accomplishments of the United Nations System Staff College (General Assembly resolutions 55/207 and 55/278)
United Nations Institute for Training and Research	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.93, para. 8)
11. Globalization and interdependence	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.84, para. 27)

Agenda item	*Documentation*
12. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.59, para. 20)
13. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.60, para. 9)[5]
14. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.34, para. 4)
15. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development:	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the Conference (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.36, paras. 1 and 2)
	Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring effective Secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the Conference (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.62, para. 9)
High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development	Report of the Secretary-General (A/C.2/57/L.82)
	Secretariat summary of the informal hearings (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.82)
	Summary by the President of the General Assembly on the policy dialogue (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.82)
	Summary by the co-chairpersons of round tables (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.82)
	Note by the Secretary-General on inputs from all stakeholders (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.82)
	Issues paper containing the annotated agenda and programme of work

Agenda item	*Documentation*
16. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields*	No advance documentation has been requested (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.70, para. 10)
2004[d]	
1. Report of the Economic and Social Council[c]	Report of the Economic and Social Council Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Council decision 1982/112) Report of the Secretary-General on the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (General Assembly resolution 56/212, para. 5) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (article 34 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States)
2. Macroeconomic policy questions	
(a) International trade and development	Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))
(b) Commodities	Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects (General Assembly resolution 55/183 and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.73, para. 12)
(c) Science and technology for development	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its seventh session (General Assembly resolution 55/185)

* Plenary item.

[d] The programme of work and documentation list for 2004 will be updated in 2003, taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

[c] The list of questions and documentation under this item corresponds to requests for reports from the General Assembly; the list will be finalized after the Council completes its work in 2004.

Agenda item	*Documentation*
	Report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on the outcome of the Biotechnology World Forum (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.61, para. 4)
	Report by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society (General Assembly resolution 56/183 and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.42, para. 11)[c]
3. Sectoral policy questions	
Industrial development cooperation	Report of the Secretary-General on industrial development cooperation (General Assembly resolution 55/187 and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.51, para. 16)
4. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation	Report of the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (General Assembly resolution 50/130)
(a) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy	Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 55/191 and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.14, para. 3)
(b) Women in development	Update of the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* (General Assembly resolution 56/188, para. 26)
(c) Culture and development	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions on culture and development (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.63, para. 8)
(d) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership	Report of the Secretary-General (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.15, para. 12)

Agenda item	*Documentation*
5. Environment and sustainable development	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities undertaken for the International Year of Freshwater and on further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.86, para. 7)
(a) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Association of Caribbean States (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.66, para. 8)
	Report of the Secretary-General on promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.66, para. 15)
(b) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.54, para. 7)
6. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Relevant section of the report of the Council on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)
	Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals on the modalities of the future work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, taking into account the decisions contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.83, paras. 8 and 11)
	Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its fourth session (Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35)

Agenda item	*Documentation*
7. Operational activities for development	
(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)
(b) Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	Comprehensive analysis by the Secretary-General of the implementation of the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (General Assembly resolution 56/201, para. 96, and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.25, para. 8)[c]
	Report of the Secretary-General on the results of an evaluation of the progress of the common country assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes and their impact on the field of operational activities (General Assembly resolution 56/201, para. 47)[c]
8. Training and research	Report of the Council of the United Nations University (General Assembly resolutions 3081 (XXVIII) and 48/162 and decision 52/450, and draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.48, para. 11)
9. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.31, para. 7)[c]
10. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the Conference (draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.36, para. 1)